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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on the Promotion
and Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-second session
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Letter dated 12 June 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

I have the honour to forward to you, herewith enclosed,* the Statement of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia concerning the first anniversary of the cessation of the NATO aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. I would like to ask you to have it circulated as an official document of the fifty-second session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights under item 2 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed): Branko Brankovic
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* The annex is reproduced as received, in English only.

STATEMENT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Federal Government stated that the brutal aggression by nineteen Member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), led by the United States, against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was an act contrary to international law and a crime against peace and humanity. The military aggression ended with the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) on 10 June 1999. The adoption of this resolution was preceded by the acceptance of the Ahtisaari-Chernomyrdin document and the signing of the Military Technical Agreement of Kumanovo.

In this way, the settlement of the problem of Kosovo and Metohija was reverted back to the world Organization, i.e. to the Security Council, as the sole and legitimate authority for maintaining peace and security. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia thus demonstrated its confidence in the United Nations and agreed to the Security Council resolution whose essential provisions envisaged full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the FR of Yugoslavia and demanded cooperation with the Yugoslav authorities in the discharge of the mandate entrusted to international security and civil presences.

However, the Federal Government noted that one year after KFOR and UNMIK, headed by Bernard Kouchner, were deployed in Kosovo and Metohija, they had systematically violated their mandate under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and obstructed its consistent implementation, thus demonstrating that they were neither capable nor willing to establish order and personal and property safety for all inhabitants of Kosovo and Metohija, or to respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of our country. They have completely betrayed the confidence placed in them.

Following the deployment of UNMIK and KFOR, Kosovo and Metohija has been turned into a base of organized international crime, illicit trafficking in drugs and arms, white slavery and money laundering. It is still a recruitment centre for terrorists. UNMIK and KFOR have openly become accomplices and directly responsible for the ethnic cleansing and protracted genocide of Serbs, Muslims, Turks and non-Albanians in this Province.

The Federal Government considered that the Security Council, in view of its responsibility under the Charter, has to face the following facts. During the military and Civil presences of the United Nations and since they took full responsibility for the situation in the Province 5,000 terrorist attacks have been carried out. More than 1,000 people have been killed and over 940 abducted. About 360,000 Serbs, Muslims, Roma, Turks, Goranci, Egyptians and other non-Albanians have been driven from their homes. Eighty-six medieval places of worship and cultural and historic sites of inestimable value have been destroyed. More than 250,000 foreigners, mostly citizens of Albania and Macedonia, have illegally crossed the State border of the FR of Yugoslavia and stayed in the Province. The terrorist "Kosovo Liberation Army", which is an armed wing of the Albanian narco-mafia and which has allegedly been transformed into the so-called "Kosovo Protection Corps", continues with its terror and ethnic cleansing, which is evidence that it has not been demilitarized, disarmed or disbanded but that it has been acting under the auspices of UNMIK and KFOR and with their direct assistance and under the direction of the NATO alliance.

The failure of the UNMIK and KFOR Mission to protect the basic human rights of the inhabitants, for whose security they took responsibility, as well as to preserve the multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural character of Kosovo and Metohija, is more than evident.

The Government assessed that the systematic violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) had prevented the launching of the political process of settling the status of the Province within the Republic of Serbia and the FR of Yugoslavia, as set out in resolution 1244 (1999).

The Federal Government insisted, in accordance with resolution 1244 (1999), on an immediate return and deployment of VJ and MUP personnel with a view to ensuring full protection of the internationally recognized borders of the FR of Yugoslavia, on restoring the functioning of the legitimate Provincial and local administration as well as the functioning of all essential public services and on taking all measures and guarantees for a safe and unimpeded return of all expelled and displaced persons. Parallel with the restoration of peace, order and personal and property safety for all inhabitants of the Province, conditions will be created for the start of the process of the political resolution of problems in Kosovo and Metohija within the autonomy of this Serbian province as an inseparable part of the constitutional, legal and economic system of the Republic of Serbia that would guarantee the multi-cultural, multi-religious and multi-ethnic character of the Province and full equality of all citizens.

The arguments, evidence and facts supporting all the above assessments of the Federal Government are contained in its Memorandum on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) that it forwarded to the Security Council of the United Nations with a request that it be published as a document of the United Nations.

In view of all this, the Federal Government demanded that the Security Council of the United Nations:

- declare null and void all acts and decisions taken by Head of UNMIK Bernard Kouchner, contrary to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999);

- condemn in the strongest terms, put an end to the activity of Head of UNMIK Bernard Kouchner and withdraw from Kosovo and Metohija the forces of UNMIK and KFOR, who are directly responsible for the systematic violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and for countless loss of life, untold suffering of the Serbian and other non-Albanian population and for the damage inflicted by Kosovo Albanian terrorists in the presence of tens of thousands of KFOR and UNMIK members;

- urgently take all necessary measures to ensure full and consistent implementation of its resolution 1244 (1999);

- most strongly condemn continued NATO aggression against the FR of Yugoslavia through the maintenance of the illegal system of sanctions and embargoes imposed by NATO Member States, through constant attempts at undermining the FR of Yugoslavia and through material, political and media support for the Albanian separatists and terrorists in Kosovo and Metohija, whose activities, in conjunction with the obstruction of UNMIK and KFOR in the implementation of resolution 1244 (1999), are aimed at the destabilization and breaking up of the territorial integrity of the FR of Yugoslavia, at reshaping internationally recognized borders and, therefore, at causing widespread instability and conflict in the region, with far-reaching negative implications for peace and security in the Balkan region;

- take all necessary measures to compensate for the damage and other losses inflicted on the population, economy and cultural heritage of Kosovo and Metohija by UNMIK and KFOR and by the terrorist and criminal gangs they are supporting.

Belgrade, 7 June 2000

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